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China, Peoples Republic of Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

China to attach inspection and quarantine labels for food exports

2007

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Report Highlights:

This is an unofficial translation of an announcement by China's General Administration for Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) stating that the quarantine agency will be affixing inspection and quarantine labels to packages of all food products destined for export beginning September 1, 2007.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Beijing [CH1]
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Executive Summary

China's quarantine agency AQSIQ recently announced that the entry-exit inspection and quarantine bureaus (CIQs) will begin affixing inspection and quarantine labels to packages for sale of all food products destined for export after being inspected as of September 1, 2007. According to AQSIQ, the move is aimed at ensuring export food quality and safety and cracking down on illegal (unlicensed) food exports. The recent uncovering of food safety problems has been an issue of great concern as other countries have come to question China's food safety and export control system and enforcement.

BEGIN TRANSLATION

Announcement of Affixing Inspection and Quarantine Labels on Exported Food Products

AQSIQ No. 85 (2007)

June 1, 2007

In an effort to ensure exported food quality and safety, crack down on illegal food exports and safeguard the reputation of exported food, AQSIQ has decided that all exported food products which have been inspected by exit-entry inspection and quarantine agencies shall be affixed with an inspection and quarantine label as of September 1, 2007. Details are as follows:

- 1) All food products that have been inspected by exit-entry inspection and quarantine agencies shall be affixed with an inspection and quarantine label on their packages for sale. The scope of food products subject to this requirement can be found in the appendix.
- 2) Along with the inspection and quarantine labels, all food products that have been inspected by exit-entry inspection and quarantine agencies should indicate the manufacturer, hygiene registration number, product name, production serial number and production date on their packages during transportation. The exit-entry inspection and quarantine agencies should indicate the above information on the documents and certificates they produce in order to make sure that the products conform to the documents and are easy to trace back.
- 3) In case the exit-entry inspection and quarantine agencies find that an exported food fails to conform to the documents or is missing an inspection and quarantine label, the product will not be allowed for export.
- 4) Other procedures pertaining to affixing inspection and quarantine labels shall be implemented in accordance with *Administrative Measures on Exit-entry Inspection and Quarantine Labels* (AQSIQ Decree No. 23 of 2000).

Appendix:**Scope of exported foods subject to inspection and quarantine labels:**

Aquatic products, poultry and livestock, wild animal meat and products, casings, egg and products, edible animal tallow, and other animal-origin foods; rice, coarse grain (beans), vegetable and products, wheat flour and grain products, pickled products, peanuts, tea, cocoa, coffee beans, malt, hop, edible seeds, dry (fried) nuts, edible vegetable oil, oilseeds, condiments, milk and dairy products, health food, wine and spirits, canned food, beverage, candies and confectionary, cakes and biscuits, preserved fruit, honey products, fast-frozen food, and food additives.

The above food products must affix (inspection and quarantine) labels on packages for sale; no need to affix labels on packages such as baskets or jute bags during transportation; food in bulk is free from labeling.

END TRANSLATION